

Transportation/Mental Health Minutes

June 9, 2015

The Transportation/Mental Health Contract Committee of the Piatt County Board met on Tuesday, June 9, 2015, at 9:57 am in Room 104 of the Courthouse. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Al Manint. Attending were: Al Manint, Randy Shumard, Darlene Baker, David King, Lisa Olsen, Eileen Sierra-Brown, Melanie England, Ray Spencer and Keri Nusbaum.

MOTION: Shumard moved, seconded by Baker to approve the May 5, 2015 minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Memorandum of Understanding

Lisa asked if a new Memorandum of Understanding was necessary. Both departments are comfortable with keeping the current Memorandum of Understanding renewing month to month rather than re-doing it now, knowing it will change in a short time.

Motion: Shumard made motion, seconded by Baker to keep the current Memorandum of Understanding on a month to month basis. All in favor, motion carried.

Contract for Services:

Lisa said she was asked to prepare contract information for the next Transportation committee meeting to review rates. Darlene said she didn't have a problem going through the process, however their budget year begins July 1, they have been working on their budget, so if there were a rate increase, it would affect the budget they have already prepared. David King asked what the committee was proposing for an increase, and Al Manint told him it would be a reduction of the discount, not raising the fare amount. Randy Shumard asked how much Mental Health spent per year with Piattran, it is approximately \$25,000-\$30,000 per year. David King noted, to clarify, that Mental Health revenue is down, due to several clients transitioning out of their care. The rent money from Piattran will also go away when the building project is complete. They will not lease the space out again as it is needed for their program. They will analyze the costs of Piattran vs. using their drivers. The issue with the transportation of the Rantoul client could possibly be worked out using C-Cart for a portion of the route, with Piattran bringing him to Monticello.

When there is a final determination from IDOT regarding the Mental Health vehicles and drivers, all departments can make decisions. King would like to know the options. Olsen stated for the minutes that Piattran's budget cuts did require them to downsize their fleet by several aging vehicles, and removing Mental Health's vehicles from the fleet, and there was discussion as to whether Mental Health would be interested in those. Mental Health needs a ballpark estimate as to the maintenance, condition and operational costs of the vehicles. Lisa stated those estimates should be easily available. Eileen Sierra-Brown will share the link with Darlene and David for a comparison tool which is available. If they get the information soon, Mental Health will be able to make a recommendation to the board. They will need to look at other sources for the charter trips, as well.

King asked who would prepare the contract. IDOT will provide guidance on the contracts, and Piattran will prepare the contracts. Baker said that part of the uneasiness is that they have both a vendor/customer relationship as well as a partner relationship, and that there had been surprises over the last couple months. Mental Health needs to give clients a 30 day notice of any change, and these surprises make that difficult. The decisions made by committees and boards have forced them to be reactive rather than proactive. Manint said the hope is that these committee meetings will make the communication better.

King explained that changes in their department can happen very quickly, and the decisions are not based only on revenue, but also client care. Lisa agreed it is a balancing act for both transportation and mental health.

King felt they were not given notice by the County Board that changes could be expected.

Al Manint said the intent of the County Board is to insure that both entities remain solvent.

As of July 1 mental health vehicles will be pulled from the transportation fleet, and the budget. Mental health will look at the best use of the vehicles which will be returned to them. The intent is not to take revenue from transportation, but to make best use of their resources. Al said it would be difficult for the County board to back

Mental Health providing their own transportation. They are not looking at providing all of it, but possibly pieces of it.

Baker asked about terms for lawn mowing and snow removal for the future. Lawn care is now included in the rent, but snow removal is split between them. This will need to be addressed when the lease arrangement ends.

Managed Care Organizations

Transportation has not moved forward on this. Mental Health has a few contracts with MCO'S. Transportation will work on this as soon as they have an opportunity.

Substance Abuse policy

If mental health staff drives Piattran vehicles, there will need to be an amendment to the policy. The departments have different substance abuse policies.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be July 7, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

MOTION: Manint moved, seconded by Shumard to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 11:01 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Nusbaum
Piatt County Zoning Officer